Service Date: May 21, 1992

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

IN THE MATTER Of The Application
Of THE MONTANA POWER COMPANY'S
Unreflected Gas Cost Account Balance as of August 31, 1991, and
Its Gas Tracking Proposal for the
Period September 1, 1991, to
August 31, 1992, IMR Differential
Recovery, and NGI Recovery.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. On October 24, 1991, the Montana Power Company (MPC) filed its annual gas tracking application, which was denominated Docket No. 91.10.44. MPC seeks approval of deferred gas costs, as well as a gas cost for purposes of computing the base cost of gas for the tracking period. It also seeks to recover balances which have accrued because of the difference between sales made at the Interruptible Market Retention (IMR) rate and interruptible industrial gas rate.
- A Notice of Opportunity for Public Hearing was issued and no protests nor requests for hearing were received.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. Applicant is a "public utility" within the meaning of Section 69-3-101, MCA.
- 2. The Montana Public Service Commission properly exercises jurisdiction over the Applicant's Montana operations pursuant to Title 69, Chapter 3, MCA.

ORDER

1. Rates approved on an interim basis are hereby made permanent.

DONE IN OPEN SESSION at Helena, Montana this 11th day of May, 1992 by a 4 - 0 vote.

BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

DANNY OBERG, Chairman
WALLACE W. "WALLY" MERCER, Vice Chairman
BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner

MPC - Dock	et No. 91.10.44, Final Order No. 5579a	Page 3
ATTEST:		
Ann Peck		
Commission	Secretary	
(SEAL)		
NOTE:	Any interested party may request that motion to reconsider must be filed with	the Commission reconsider this decision. <i>A</i> in ten (10) days. <u>See</u> 38.2.4806, ARM.